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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. **10/532,202** Confirmation No.: **6755**
 Applicant(s): **STEFFEN HASENZAHL, ET AL.**
 Filed: **April 14, 2005**
 TC/A.U. **1796**
 Examiner: **Peter F. Godenschwager**
 Title: **PULVERULENT MATERIALS**
 Docket No.: **032301.415**
 Customer No.: **25461**

MAIL STOP AF
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
 Sir:

LETTER TO EXAMINER PRIOR TO INTERVIEW

The following is a proposal for discussion purposes only at an interview to be scheduled.

It is proposed to amend the claims as shown on the attached pages.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH, GAMBRELL & RUSSELL, LLP

By:


 Robert G. Weilacher, Reg. No. 20,531

Dated: October 15, 2008
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LIT1051458.1

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Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) Pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, comprising one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+4}$ where $n=2-18$ which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physiochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m^2/g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-25% [[; or]]

(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:

BET surface area	25-400 m^2/g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-10%
DBP number %:	<200.

2. (Currently Amended) Method of improving the flowability of pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof, comprising adding to the pulverulent materials and mixtures thereof one or more surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic

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oxides wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+4}$, where $n=2-18$ which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physiochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m^2/g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-25%[[; or]]

(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:

BET surface area	25-400 m^2/g
Average primary particle size	5-50 nm
pH value	3-10
Carbon content	0.1-10%
DBP number %:	<200.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising at least one pulverulent material which is a fire-extinguishing powder and at least one surface-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide wherein the surface-modified and structure-modified pyrogenically prepared metalloid or metallic oxide is

(a) a silanized structure-modified silica having alkylsilyl groups of the formula $\text{SiC}_n\text{H}_{2n+4}$, where $n=2-18$ which are octylsilyl and/or hexadecylsilyl attached to said silica, and having the following physiochemical properties:

BET surface area	25-400 m^2/g
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Average primary particle size 5-50 nm
pH value 3-10
Carbon content 0.1-25%[[; or]]

~~(b) a silanized structure-modified silica, which is characterized by having a group attached to said silica, said group being selected from the group consisting of dimethylsilyl and monomethylsilyl, and mixtures thereof, having the following physicochemical data:~~

BET surface area 25-400 m²/g
Average primary particle size 5-50 nm
pH value 3-10
Carbon content 0.1-10%
DBP number %: <200.

5.-13. (Cancelled)